

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR § 1.83(a) for failing to show the frame as recited in claims 57, 75 and 77. In response to this objection, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to Figure 7 that was filed August 7, 2003. This figure shows frame 15, which corresponds to the frame recited in claims 57, 75 and 77. Also, please note that on March 15 and March 17, 2004, Applicants' undersigned representative discussed with Examiner Cole these drawing objections and Figure 7 as filed on August 7, 2003, and Examiner Cole indicated that the drawing objections would be withdrawn in view of this Figure 7.

Claims 20, 21, 41, 42, 60, 61, 80-82, 86-88, 103, 104, 120 and 121 were objected to for containing an informality. Specifically, the Examiner expressed that it is not clear as to how openings can extend through the block if one end of the openings are closed. In response to this objection, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to Figure 1, for example, which shows openings 1 to extend completely through block 2, which openings are closed at one end thereof when bottom plate 7a is attached to the block. Accordingly, the claims continue to recite that the openings extend completely through the block, with the openings being closed at one end thereof.

Also, a replacement formal drawing for Figure 1 is provided herewith, which new figure differs from Figure 1 as filed December 24, 2002 by correctly identifying cavity 8 in block 2. The Examiner is also requested approve the formal drawing submitted for Figure 2 on April 4, 2003. This replacement formal drawing differs from Figure 2 as filed December 24, 2002 by indicating bolt holes 10 in block 2, and by indicating an additional circle surrounding opening 1, which designates a depression in block 2 and can be seen in Figure 3 for example.

Claims 105, 107-113 and 115 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. In response to this rejection, claims 105, 110, 112 and 115 have been amended, and claims 107-109, 111 and 113 have been cancelled.

Claims 18, 19, 22-40, 43, 44, 47-59, 62-64, 66-79, 83-85, 89, 90, 93-102, 105-119 and 122-133 were rejected over a plurality of references for a variety of reasons. And, claims 20, 21, 41, 42,

45, 46, 60, 61, 65, 80-82, 86-88, 91, 92, 103, 104, 120, 121 and 134 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim , but were indicated to be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. With regard to claim 134, during the phone conversations with Examiner Cole on March 15 and March 17, 2004, Examiner Cole indicated that she inadvertently indicated this claim to be allowable, and that this claim should have been rejected in section 9 of the Office Action mailed November 19, 2003.

Accordingly, without acquiescing to the appropriateness of the prior art rejections issued by the Examiner, and solely to further advance prosecution of this application, the subject matter indicated by the Examiner to be allowable, except for that of claim 134, has been accepted by Applicants, and the claims have been correspondingly amended. For the Examiner's convenience, the following table is provided to show correspondence between the currently presented claims and the claims indicated by the Examiner to be allowable, in the Office Action mailed November 19, 2003.

Currently Presented Claims	Allowable Claims of November 19, 2003 Office Action
18	103
104	104
19	20
21	21
38	41
42	42
45	45
57	60
61	61
64	64
77	80
81	81
82	82

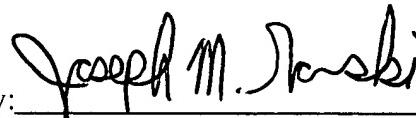
84	86
87	87
88	88
91	91
117	120
121	121

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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